

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

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Claims 1-36 (canceled)

37. (previously presented) A method of producing a masonry block having at least one irregular split edge and surface during a splitting operation, comprising:

providing a first block splitting assembly that includes one or more splitting members positioned to define a splitting line and to engage a masonry workpiece to split it generally along the splitting line when the splitting assembly is activated and that includes a plurality of projections adjacent the splitting line on at least one side thereof, said projections being positioned to engage the workpiece to break away portions of the workpiece when the splitting assembly is activated;

aligning a masonry workpiece with the splitting line; and

activating the first splitting assembly.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, further including the steps of providing a second splitting assembly opposed to the first splitting assembly, the second splitting assembly including one or more splitting members positioned to define the splitting line and to engage the workpiece to split it generally along the splitting line and including a plurality of projections adjacent the splitting line on the same side of the splitting line as the projections of the first splitting assembly, said projections of the second splitting assembly being positioned so that they engage the workpiece to break away portions of the workpiece during the splitting operation, and activating the first and second opposed splitting assemblies in concert, whereby the resulting masonry block includes an opposed pair of irregular edges.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the first and second splitting assemblies are provided with a plurality of projections disposed on each side of and adjacent to the splitting line.

Claims 40-54 (canceled)

55. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the one or more splitting members is a single splitting blade aligned with the splitting line.

Claims 56-61 (canceled)

62. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the projections engage the workpiece to break away portions of the workpiece substantially simultaneously with, or subsequent to, the one or more splitting members engaging the workpiece.

63. (previously presented) The method of claim 62, wherein at least some of the projections break away portions of the workpiece subsequent to the one or more splitting members engaging the workpiece.

64. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the projections are positioned to travel into the workpiece during the splitting operation.

Claims 65-69 (canceled)

70. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the one or more splitting members comprise portions of at least some of the projections.

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